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Fernando DÍEZ MARTÍN, Kenneth MARTÍNEZ MOLINA**, Joan GARCÍA GARRIGA**, José Ángel GÓMEZ GONZÁLEZ***, Isabel CÁCERES**, Ethel ALLUÉ MARTÍ**, Policarpo SÁNCHEZ YUSTOS* and Yosé YRAVEDRA SÁINZ DE LOS TERREROS****.* * Universidad de Valladolid. Departamento de Prehistoria y Arqueología. Pza. del Campus, s/n. 47011 Valladolid. ** Universidad Rovira i Virgili. Área de Prehistoria. Pça. Imperial Tàrraco, 1. 43005 Tarragona. *** Agencia Estatal de Meteorología. 47620 Villanubla, Valladolid. **** Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia. Departamento de Prehistoria y Arqueología. Senda del Rey, 7. 28040 Madrid

The Middle Palaeolithic in the Southern Caucasus: Double Cave (Tsutskhvati valley, Republic of Georgia)

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This paper presents the main results obtained through a new round of archaeological excavations undertaken in Double Cave (Tsutskvati valley, Republic of Georgia), between 2002 and 2003. Stratigraphic, technological, taphonomic and pollen analyses have permitted to gather new data, complementary to those obtained in the nearby Ortvale Klde cave, on the Neanderthal communities that inhabited the Southern Caucasus. This region constitutes one of the areas in which the last members of this species survived. While the long-term fieldwork program undertaken at Ortvale Klde has furnished a complete set of dates regarding the Neanderthal occupation of this cave and the arrival of modern humans, no chronological contexts have been obtained for other similar sites located in the Caucasian region. However, the Neanderthal presence in the Tsutskhvati valley must have taken place during the same time-span proposed for Ortvale Kdle. Although nowadays Double Cave and the well-known Bronze Cave lack reliable chronological contexts, it is important to remark that these sites located in the Tsutskhvati valley are recurrently cited in the debate on the end of the Neandethals and the arrival of *Homo sapiens* to the Caucasus. This is why the new data presented here (last fieldwork and research were carried out in the region in the 1970s) are informative and valuable, despite chronological limitations, in order to enlarge our knowledge on this important issue of the European Prehistory.

Key words: Homo neanderthalensis. Southern Caucasus. Middle Palaeolithic. Tsutskhvati valley.

903.1 (43) "632"

Esteban ÁLVAREZ-FERNÁNDEZ. Instituto Internacional de Investigaciones Prehistóricas de Cantabria. Unidad Asociada al CSIC. Edif. Interfacultativo de la Universidad de Cantabria. Av. de los Castros, S/N. 39005 Santander (España). Correo-e: estebanalfer@hotmail.com

Magdalenian personal ornaments on the move: a review of the current evidence in Central Europe

Zephyrus, LXIII, January-June 2009, pp. 45-59

The Magdalenian is the period in the Upper Palaeolithic in which the greatest number of beads and pendants has been documented. Few sites with levels of this period have not provided examples of this type of artefact. The variety of raw materials used to make them (animal's teeth, marine or fossil molluscs, antler, ivory, etc.) and the decoration on some of them, inform us of contacts between regions remote from each other.

This paper reviews the different types of pendants that have been recorded from Magdalenian sites, with the aim of roughly establishing the network of contacts that existed among the groups of hunter-gatherers in Central Europe. It studies the context in which these artefacts were found, in well recorded stratigraphies at sites researched in recent decades. The study of certain types (marine shells from Atlantic and Mediterranean sources, certain kinds of perforated objects made in jet, such as discs and "Gönnersdorf type" schematic female figures, reindeer teeth sawn off at the alveoli, or discs made from scapulae) enable us to infer the existence of complex networks of long-distance contacts between human groups in the Late Glacial.

Key words: Personal ornaments. Upper Palaeolithic. Magdalenian. Central Europe.

903.7 (44) "634"

Philippe HAMEAU and Albert PAINAUD**.* * LASMIC. Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis (France). Correo-e: hameau@unice.fr. ** Museo de Huesca (España). Correo-e: albpainaud@yahoo.es

Transition rites and Neolithic painted shelters

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The double concept of passing and transformation can explain the frequenting of shelters with schematic paintings: passing through the sites with exceptional characteristics and social change of individual who frequent these places. We rely the A. Van Gennep's tripartite system (separation, liminarity, association) concerning the translation rites to demonstrate the importance of spatial and material analysis about the decorated sites. For some of these sites the cloistering devices prove that the liminarity is the great time of transition rites: the moment where the individual is in another status and space.

Key words: Schematic paintings. Transition rites. Cloistering. France. Spain. Neolithic.

736.3 (460.25)"01"

Martín ALMAGRO-GORBEA, Adrián ARROYO, Juan Francisco M. CORBÍ, Beatriz MARÍN and Mariano TORRES

The scarabaei found in Extremadura: A socio-ideological interpretation

Zephyrus, LXIII, January-June 2009, pp. 71-104

Analysis of the typology, origin, chronology, geographical span, iconography and socio-cultural context of 21 scarabaei, scarabaeoides and seals found in Extremadura (Spain). There were used from 700 to 400 B.C. by Tartessian people, which adopted its magic, religious and socio-economic functions, lent by Phoenicians.

Key words: Scarab. Tartessos. Extremadura. Phoenician religion. Acculturation.

902.6 (460.41)"638"

Pablo ATOCHE PEÑA. Departamento de Ciencias Históricas. Facultad de Geografía e Historia. Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Plaza de la Constitución, s/n. 35003 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Correo-e: patoche@dch.ulpgc.es

Stratigraphy, absolute chronology and cultural sequencing in the Protohistory of Lanzarote

Zephyrus, LXIII, January-June 2009, pp. 105-134

This work analyses four settlements on the island of Lanzarote which have many features in common, both from a geological and an archaeological perspective. From these settlements, we have gained knowledge of the processes of formation and destruction of the paleosoil on the island, as well as information about the chronological and cultural context surrounding these processes. This has enabled us to propose a stratigraphic, chronological and cultural sequence of Lanzarote's protohistoric period. For this investigation we have used a wide range of unique contextualised chronometric references in various stratigraphic sequences which have been calibrated and subjected to standardised deviation indices. The dating is organised in series based on the type of sample analysed, the analysis procedure used and the strata from which the sample was taken, allowing us to estimate the chronological limit values for each strata and to establish the calibration averages by series and strata. All the dating sequences show a very similar general pattern, dating distinct moments of Lanzarote's historical past between the 6th century B.C. and the 14th century A.D., the latter being very close to the beginning of the Norman-Castilian conquest which was responsible for bringing to an end the island's protohistoric period.

Key words: Canary Islands. Lanzarote. Protohistory. Environment. ¹⁴C dates.

903.8 (460.15)"638"

Isabel RODRÍGUEZ CASANOVA. Doctora en Arqueología. C/ Joaquín Zurita, 34. 28660 Boadilla del Monte, Madrid. Correo-e: isabelrcasanova@terra.es. Tfnos. 91-633-29-80; 639-34-61-35

New information about the Celtiberian hoard from Monte Lejarza-Larrabezúa (Biscay)

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Thanks to the original documentation preserved in the Real Academia de la Historia, it has been possible to rebuild the composition of the hoard of Monte Lejarza-Larrabezúa (Biscay), found in 1767. It consisted of one hundred and twenty one celtiberian *denarii*, together with silver jewelry, most of them fragmented. The coins are identifiable as issues from the celtiberian mints of $\alpha \rho; \varepsilon \kappa \sigma; \alpha \tau \alpha, \sigma; \varepsilon \kappa \sigma \beta \iota \rho; \iota \kappa \varepsilon \sigma; \beta \alpha \sigma; \kappa \upsilon \nu \varepsilon \sigma$ - $\beta \varepsilon \nu \kappa \sigma \tau \alpha, \tau \upsilon \rho; \iota \alpha \sigma \alpha, \alpha \rho \sigma \alpha \sigma \sigma$ and $\beta o \lambda \sigma; \kappa \alpha \nu,$ the common at the coin hoards attribued to Sertorian dates from the North Lands of Spain. It must be noted that $\beta \alpha \sigma; \kappa \upsilon \nu \varepsilon \sigma$ - $\beta \varepsilon \nu \kappa \sigma \tau \alpha$ pieces are the most represented in the hoard, suggesting a proximity to the mint origin of the issues. Some pieces of jewelry could be identified as neckring fragments, earrings, bracelets and perhaps *fibulae*, almost must of the silver pieces were uncertain objects. Both the coins and the retrieved jewelry point to close relationships with the celtiberian world.

Key words: Celtiberian Hoards. Coin-hoards. Celtiberian coinage. Celtiberian jewelry. Monetary circulation.

903.4 (460.189)"638"

Antonio BLANCO GONZÁLEZ. Servicio de Ordenación y Protección. D. G. de Patrimonio Cultural. Palacio del Licenciado Butrón. 47003 Valladolid. Correo-e: blagonat@jcyl.es

Land use tendences in Amblés Valley (Ávila, Spain). From the Iron Age to the Middle Ages

Zephyrus, LXIII, January-June 2009, pp. 155-183

This paper constitutes the continuation of a previous one (Blanco González, 2008) with which it shares objectives, study area and methodology. Both try to offer a dyachronic interpretation of the ancient human occupation of the Amblés Valley (Ávila). This time the paper includes information from the Late Iron Age to the Middle Ages (*c.* 1250 AD). In particular the territorial analysis has been focused on a fundamental economic settlement issue: the access of the direct producers to the agrarian resources from the residential nuclei. With this objective, the agrarian potentiality has been measured from the grounds within the exploitation territories of a selected series of archaeological sites and modern villages. The information on the considered archaeological sites —of presumable residential functionality— comes from extensive and intensive field surveys as much as from some excavations. The agrologic quality of the grounds whithin its surroundings has been quantified by means of the routine of a GIS which calculates the accessible land surfaces for a half-an-hour walk and an one-hour walk from each site.

The findings, ordered per times, are expressed in hectares of the different agrologic classes and they appear by means of graphical summaries. The greatest discontinuity settles down in the Late Iron Age, which links the prehistoric tendency of strong imbalance on the represented land uses –conditioned by technological

locational factors or symbolic/political ones- and the historical tendency -of clear economic orientationcharacterized by a strict balance among them. The interpretation of the historic process attended -despite its discontinuity caused by a lack of data- informs about the different rates on agrarian intensification, productive diversification and socio-political integration in the zone, reaching its algid moment at the end of the studied sequence.

Key words: Site catchment/exploitation analysis. Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Late Iron Age. Roman settlement. Late Antiquity and Early Middle Ages settlement. Medieval colonization. Northern Meseta (Central Spain).

930.271 (260.251)

María del Rosario HERNANDO SOBRINO. Departamento de Historia Antigua-Archivo Epigráfico de Hispania. Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Jerónimo Román de la Higuera and the epigraphy of Ibahernando (Cáceres)

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This paper shows and analyses five roman inscriptions from Ibahernando (Cáceres). These inscriptions, some of them unpublished, are registered in an autographed manuscript by the jesuit Jerónimo Román de la Higuera. This manuscript, entitled *Historia Eclesiástica de España (tomo V)*, can be found in the Biblioteca Nacional de Madrid (Ms. 1.642). Once again, these inscriptions show that, given a careful analysis, the epigraphic information provided by Román de la Higuera can be used by historians and researchers of Ancient Hispania.

Key words: Manuscripts. Latin epigraphy. Funerary and votive inscriptions. Indigenous divinities.

903.27 (260.283)"634"

Juan F. RUIZ LÓPEZ. Dpto. de Historia. Facultad de Ciencias de la Educación y Humanidades. Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha. Cuenca. Avda. de los Alfares, 42. 16071 Cuenca. Correo-e: juanfranciscoruiz@uclm.es

Los Arenales. A new rock art site in Villar del Humo, Cuenca

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Levantine Art in Villar del Humo town (Cuenca province) was discovered for the first time in 1917. Peña del Escrito, Selva Pascuala or Marmalo rock shelters has often been quoted since then, in spite of the lack of research projects. Levantine Art in this region doesn't come to an end with these caves but new sites have been discovered in the last years that remain unpublished. Without doubt the more important one is Los Arenales shelter, discovered in 2001, because of the number of figures and the complex relationships between naturalistic and schematic figures that we can find in their panels.

Key words: Levantine Art. Schematic Art. Villar del Humo. Landscape Archaeology. Painting technique.

903.27 (260.357)"634"

Marcos FERNÁNDEZ RUIZ. Departamento de Prehistoria y Arqueología. Universidad de Granada. C/ Sacromonte, n.º 1. 18119 Cájar, Granada

Schematic rock art in the Arroyo de Huenes (Monachil, Granada)

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Two stations with manifestation of schematic rock art found in the natural place of the Arroyo de Huenes (Monachil, Granada) appear, offering in this paper the study of the motifs contained in the shelters and the graphical documentation of the same shelters (not included in previous papers). These two findings have allowed extending the sequence of occupation of this territory during Recent Prehistory, as well as to strengthen this zone like one of the routes of communication with high lands of Sierra Nevada for the advantage of its natural resources at prehistoric time.

Key words: Arroyo de Huenes. Monachil. Schematic rock art. Shelters of movement. Route of communication.